

THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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Don't worry or lose any sleep about the present incoming legislature passing any "Socialistic" measures because they advocated a few of them in their platforms; that was just to dupe your easy ones.

The labor fakirs don't appear to know what to think about the initiative and referendum proposition becoming a law before a body of free transportation, citizens alliance, shyster lawyers and fake law makers.

The labor fakir who is so deeply interested in labor laws need worry none over the coming legislature; he has no worry coming as he got all that was coming to him just before election. Yes, every labor fakir got his price from six bits up to a dollar and a half.

After the squirming that the democrat country weeklies have done about the fear of the republicans passing laws according to the pledges of their platform, it would be funny, real funny, if they would go the limit and force that labor idol of a Toole up to the notch of signing something of the kind. It would test his half-baked Socialistic get-into-office ideas.

A number of the republican papers over the state express a fear that some of their republican legislators are not "true blue," and may consequently raise hob when it comes to voting for United States Senator. However, no fear need be expressed, for when the time comes "Tom" will come through with the long green and the recalcitrant members will quickly whip into line.

On the 29th a jail break was planned at Folsom, California, in which several convicts were killed and others injured. Barring two exceptions those in the melee were in jail for robbery, and the whole bunch put together never stole as much as old Rockefeller does in one day; but there is a difference under the present system as to how you steal. Rockefeller's is legalized stealing that brings comfort to him, while the jail birds' is criminal and brings death to them.

According to figures given out recently in the matter of the army as compared with the soldiers of other nations, the American is better paid, better clothed, better sheltered and better fed than the troops of any other country. 12 cents a month is the scale of wages received by the Russian soldier, while the Jap that makes up the opposing army gets 60 cents a month. The French soldier draws \$1.74; the German, \$2.50; the English, \$7.14; the American, \$13; and don't laugh too loud at the small scale of wages, for that is more than some of you working mules clear up. Of course, while these comparisons are being made of an American soldier with a foreign soldier, it might be well to compare his pay with that of the officers, which runs into the hundreds a month. But why compare them? The man that will work for \$13 a

month, surrounded by the damnable pomp and superiority of rank of the military, is worth no more. Socialism is the only solution of this problem. Socialism will form them into an army of producers and teach them sense in place of nonsense, and equality of manhood in place of inequality of rank.

OVER A HUNDRED DROPPED.

Beginning the new year the Montana News starts off with a slightly smaller list than it closed the old year with. This is because of the many campaign subscribers at 25 cents expiring on January 1.

It now behooves us and all interested in the movement to not only gain the number that have expired, but to add many more new names to our books. Will you help us in this matter? To many it may appear that the News, in common with all other Socialist papers, is continually crying for the co-operative help of the comrades, and such is the case and probably will be for some time to come. This cannot be otherwise for the Socialist papers are up against a hard proposition. Think of the many other little business firms going to the wall every day, and then no wonder will be expressed that Socialist papers go the same route.

It is the firm belief of the editor of the News that the Socialist papers will not be put upon a firm footing and brought up to the newspaper standing that they should be, until such time as the party begins to elect some of its members to office. It will not be accomplished then if the emoluments of office are handled in the manner that is the case with old parties. If Socialism is practiced however, we have every reason to believe that it will be, the salaries of all officers will be placed in a fund under control of the respective Socialist bodies to which the officer elected represents, and the officer then to receive a living salary while the "graft" emoluments of the office go into the fund and from there into the cause of Socialist propaganda. Then the party will have an enormous fund to support good papers, put organizers in the field and continue the work in a first class manner.

For instance, suppose that the Socialists should elect a district judge who draws a salary of about \$300 per month; this money should go to the party, the man holding the office to receive a living salary, say about \$100, and the other \$200, which is at present "graft" money, would go to the cause of Socialism.

To really see what this would be to a movement, would be nearly impossible to follow it to its final conclusion, but to get an abstract idea just figure up the salaries of your county officers, your state officers, and your national officers. Of course we assume that this would be getting right down to pure Socialism where the janitor at the capitol would draw as much per month from the fund as would the governor. There is no reason why he should not. Nine times out of ten he is the poorer man at the present with the larger family to take care of.

However, as that time has not arrived and possibly will not for some time if the laboring mules don't awake faster than they have in the past, let us get off our coats and do all in our power at the present to swell the Montana News to a 5,000 list that we may carry the educational work to a large number who will become aligned with the great movement in the near future.

TOO SLOW COMING.

Many people are heard to remark that "Socialism is all right, but it is too slow coming," and that it will never be here in their time. Possibly that is true and possibly not; that depends on how long their time is. It is very probable that only a few more years will roll by when we will see the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, but of course during this apparently short time many will pass over the great divide. However, this does not relieve us from doing our duty to hasten the day as fast as possible, even though we may not live to reap the full reward of our efforts.

In fact few men have ever lived to realize the fruits of their efforts

in some great undertaking for the betterment of mankind, but those who have lived after them have been the ones who have thousands and thousands of times sounded the praises justly due them.

The fellow from whom you most frequently hear the above remark is some fellow generally who has got on just about a half-jag and feels at that time like letting the world wag on in its old fashioned way and be contented with your lot; but human nature generally is not that way—it is not half-jagged.

One should think of the long time necessary for not only economic development, but education of the masses, which is necessary before the establishing of Socialism. In fact it is coming very fast, and probably as fast as is safe to the great revolutionary movement. Those who get in a hurry and impatient are generally the new comers to the cause who, after grasping the idea of the beauties to be ushered in by this new system, can't for the life of them see why everyone else cannot see the same as they do.

But if you will compare the education of the average or a majority of the voters with the slow process of educating a child, it is not hard to see that wonderful advancement is being made. A child is kept in school from about the age of 6 to the age of 18 years, and we think little of that, while we expect the worker, who is short on study, saying the least, to grasp the idea of economic fundamentals in a campaign or two.

Socialism is not a mushroom plant but a solid oak rooted and grown in the economic development of the conditions of the world with its industrial advancement and centralization and socialization of all industries wherein co-operation is naturally taking the place of individual effort. You cannot turn back the wheels of progress, neither can you hurry the natural advancement, but you will do well to educate the people to what is coming, that they may be prepared to handle the machinery of government collectively when it is turned into their hands.

Never be discouraged because people are not as you would like them to be; you must learn to take humanity as it is, not as you would like to have it. The great work now to be done is not to stand on the track of progress and say, as many have said in the past about great inventions, that "It won't work," for the first thing you know the great co-operative engine will come bounding around the curve, and you may be left to smile at your own ridiculousness.

Agitate, educate, and soon the Socialist will legislate.

SOCIALISTIC DIFFICULTIES.

The following sketch taken from the daily news dispatches will serve to show how strenuous are the conditions surrounding the revolutionary movement and agitation of Socialist doctrines by the workers in the cause of suffering humanity in Russia: "It has been the effort of the police to check the liberal tendencies of the students. Every channel to the entrance of revolutionary literature has been closed. Bribery and deception are the keys used to open the doors in the barriers. Thousands of seditious pamphlets are received from Germany, France, Switzerland and England. Stringent regulations are imposed with regard to printing. Every typesetter must obtain a license in order to do business. No mimeograph or other duplication machine may be sold without police permission. If such a machine is found, and permission for its use has not been given, the owner is punished. In spite of the law and its penalties and the surveillance of the police, some of my student friends have a printing outfit in their quarters and print pamphlets and proclamations. When the police become too active they memorize circulars and revolutionary poetry, which they repeat to their friends. Every conceivable way is employed to spread revolutionary doctrines. The police frequently swoop down upon them. Formerly, students found guilty of conspiring against the government

were distributed about Russia, but the authorities found that they took advantage of their contact with the people to sow Socialistic ideas. Now they are transported to certain points where they are closely watched. The emperor has some sympathy with these exiles. Occasionally he grants them pardon. At the beginning of the war he offered liberty, with restoration to full rights, to all who should voluntarily enter the army and serve in the far east."

MARRYING MONEY.

Count Cini, an Italian nobleman, grandnephew of the late Pope Leo, will in the spring lead to the altar in London Miss Elizabeth Howe of Pittsburg, one of the wealthy young women of America. This wedding was announced once before but for certain reasons was not pulled off per schedule. Miss Howe out of her vast estate has agreed to pay all the debts of the count, providing they do not run over \$50,000, and to guarantee him \$10,000 a year for life. When the count came to America a short time ago, he was broke and heavily in debt. He asked that \$70,000 be handed to him with which to pay his debts and also that he be given \$15,000 per year for life. This Miss Howe refused, and the count went to Canada. However, the count has reconsidered and thinks that he might worry along with his creditors on \$50,000 in hand and a life annuity of \$10,000. This was agreed to and they will wed in London. Miss Howe is 40 but the count is much younger. This is one of the homes that Socialism would destroy. How do you working mules like a system that fondles luxury for pet dogs and gives drunken worthless counts \$30 per day, while you receive an average of \$1.70? That's enough for you. It's what you vote for and you should have it. The count is satisfied and has no reason to be a Socialist, for Socialism would as sure as thunder destroy his home to the tune of about \$7,500 per year.

"Until a woman is able to support a husband, she should not contemplate matrimony," declared Mr. Ferris, recent democratic nominee for the governorship of Michigan.

"While I believe it is the duty of every woman to marry, still I also believe that before taking so serious a step a girl should look ahead and prepare for possible misfortunes. Therefore, every girl should fit herself for an emergency and be prepared to step into her husband's place in the support of the family, in the event of anything befalling him which will unfit him for work." No question will be raised but that Mr. Ferris belongs in the democratic party, for such assinine utterances as those stand as self-evident proof. Under Socialism the women will remain in woman's sphere of life, and will not be dragged into the slave market of the world to take care of a family, while able bodied men look for work. Strange that such jackasses as Mr. Ferris would not begin to study the system and see where the real trouble lies, in place of suggesting such rot as the above as a relief.

Labor unionism has steadily declined in power and prestige, as it might have been foreseen that it would. In the era of indiscriminate competition it had only so many disconnected cut-throat units, bound briefly and insecurely by temporary expediency of self-interest, to fight against. In the trust or combination it has encountered a foe marshalled on more compact and unsailable lines. With all unionism's years of effort and its spasmodic throes of self-sacrifice, what is the result? Holyoke, on the whole, is an "open shop" town. Labor, whether union or non-union, is freely employed and no resistance is offered. It is an ideal open-shop town and the results are ideal from the capitalist's view. Most of the labor unions, formerly so powerful, have either gone to pieces or have become so skeletonized that they are negligible and excite either pity or derision as the beholder may be disposed. Only in the building trades does unionism really count, and even in them it is disintegrating. Years of agitation, years of organization, years of contention, and consider the outcome. A slight

The HUB

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Leave	7:30 a. m.	Lombard	Arrive 3:45 p. m.
Leave	11:02 a. m.	Dorsey	Arrive 12:55 p. m.
Arrive	11:30 p. m.	Summit	Leave 12:30 p. m.
Leave	12:01 p. m.	Summit	Arrive 12:00 m.
Leave	12:40 p. m.	Lennep	Arrive 11:20 a. m.
Leave	1:06 p. m.	Martinsdale	Arrive 10:53 a. m.
Leave	1:41 p. m.	Twodot	Arrive 10:23 a. m.
Leave	2:20 p. m.	Harlowtown	Arrive 9:55 a. m.
Leave	3:50 p. m.	Ubet	Arrive 8:35 a. m.
Leave	4:58 p. m.	Moore	Arrive 7:50 a. m.
Arrive	6:00 p. m.	Lewistown	Leave 7:00 a. m.

MONTANA RAILROAD CO.,

Helena, Montana

victory gained here and there, but, after all, unionism stands almost disrupted and bankrupted. Unionism's decrees, if handed in now in the cotton mills, the paper mills, the mills of the thread trust (the American Thread Company), the silk and some other mills, would be slurred off and pigeon-holed. Unionism apparently does not see that it fights upon the archaic lines of a well-nigh bygone era while the trust or combination has improved its offensive and defensive methods, concurrently with its methods of exploitation. Unionism does not yet see that the trust that so skillfully and maliciously limits or increases production, can choose and bide its own time for attack or reprisals; or if unionism does see this, it still balks

at political action. Essential lessons of bitter experience escape it. With pauper labor came cheaper labor and surplus labor; there is plenty of both and the industrial magnates can well afford to smile contemptuously at the mention of a unionism which they no longer fear and which they have left the ghostly remnant of its former self. For decades unionism has sweated and struck; now it finds an "open shop" town, falling wages in many industries, higher prices for necessities, and above, or below it all, its own decay. The painfully widening gap between dominant industrialism and the worker points out to it no moral, nor does unionism, or such as survives of it, seem to learn from changed conditions.—The Worker.